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PERSONAL

15 September 1952

I have enclosed 4 draft copies of the US intelligence report on the Soviet Bloc rubber position. While this draft has not undergone final editing and has not been completely agreed to in detail among all US intelligence agencies, as a general proposition it can be accepted as the US intelligence position on this subject.

Two main features of this study should be explained:

1. Since the purpose of this exercise is to get the best available facts on the subject, the US draft was prepared as a research study rather than as a summary estimate. As a consequence this paper contains a rather detailed description of the methods of calculation underlying the statistical data, and where alternate methods of calculation were considered both have been presented. While the final [REDACTED] paper may not be in this form - though there should be an appendix of such explanations - we felt that your understanding of the US approach would facilitate discussion of the problem [REDACTED]. 25X1X7

2. The US study only presents the sections on Production, Trade and Consumption. The summary and conclusions outlining the stockpile position must be prepared [REDACTED] after the adoption of a single table for each of the elements involved. As it now stands there are both US [REDACTED] statistics for each aspect of this problem and in some cases there are two sets of US statistics. The final selection will be made [REDACTED], and at that time the stockpile position should be computed.

In the preparation of the final paper, we obviously need not have a single figure in all cases. In some instances a range would be desirable. Moreover, at some place in the paper or in the appendix, we should have an explanation of the limitations of the paper as a guide for future research.

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